

CALFED Ecosystem Roundtable Meeting Notes
October 28, 1998

Roundtable members (or their representatives) and Liaisons present:

Steve Evans (FOR)
Greg Gartrell (CCWD)
Randy Kanouse (EBMUD)
Dan Keppen (NCWA)
Cynthia Keohler (Save the Bay)
Laura King (SLDMWA)
Hari Modi (NCPA)
Jason Peltier (CVPWA)
David Yardas (EDF)
Tom Zuckerman (CDWA)

Patrick Leonard (USFWS)
Carolyn Yale (USEPA)
Sue Ramos (USBR)

Announcements

It was suggested that the Ecosystem Roundtable members have CMARP give a presentation at the next meeting. The first draft of their report will be sent out 11/23/98. The Restoration Fund Roundtable meeting set for Wednesday November 4, 1998 has changed to a 10:00 a.m. conference call.

Cindy Darling announced she would be taking maternity leave at the end of December, and introduced Wendy Halverson-Martin as the new Ecosystem Restoration Coordinator.

Future Meeting Dates -

Monday, **December 7**, Workshop with the Roundtable and the Integration Panel, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Resources Building, Room 1118
Friday, **December 11** beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Resources Building, Room 1131
Wednesday, **December 16** beginning at 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday **January 13** beginning at 9:30 a.m.

FY 99 Priorities, Planning, and Schedule

A revised Draft Recommended FY 99 Priorities package, based on previous Roundtable review, was presented and the revisions explained. Cindy asked the Roundtable members to send her any opinions on what to emphasize in FY 99 to achieve an appropriate balance.

The group discussed the next steps in the FY 99 process. Regional meetings to get input from local technical experts and the public on FY 99 actions, regional needs and additional projects to considered will be held on:

November 9, 1998 at Modesto - San Joaquin River and Tributaries
November 17, 1998 at Courtland - Delta/East Side Tributaries/North Bay
November 19, 1998 at Sacramento - Sacramento River and Tributaries

Input from these meetings will be sent to the Integration Panel, which will meet on December 1-3, 1998 and develop the FY 99 Action Plan. The FY 99 Action Plan will be integrated with CVPIA's FY 99 funding plan and will be generally consistent with the direction CALFED is going with the long term program. It will also be more than just a list of projects but will include rationale, linkage to previously funded projects, and adaptive management approach for each project. A workshop with the Ecosystem Roundtable and the Integration Panel to review the draft Action Plan is scheduled for Monday December 7, 1998.

CVPIA/CALFED Program Integration

Jim McKevitt presented the draft five year plan budget and timeline for CVPIA implementation, including anadromous fish restoration, water supplies for refuges and state management areas, and other mitigation land and habitat restoration under B1 actions. The two page 1999 budget was revised and the updated budget was distributed. Comments on this draft plan can still be sent in for a short time. Additional comments on the year 2000 budget may be received at the public hearings scheduled for May-August 1999.

There are many opportunities for integration and coordination, and CALFED and CVPIA will continue to closely coordinate their activities. It was suggested that CVPIA try to set aside a chunk of funds to incorporate into the proposal solicitation process once it is completed. CVPIA responded that it is easier to direct CVPIA funds to CALFED directed programs rather than the proposal solicitation process. If the CVPIA program continues to get funding reductions, they would likely fund the higher priority actions identified in earlier documentation, rather than on a project by project basis.

Don Glaser's report on the Restoration Coordination Program

Don Glaser is a consultant who has been working on review of the program, with a three-month time frame to assess the program and make recommendations for improvement. The draft report is near completion, pending interviews with two more key personnel. Roundtable members can still comment on or be interviewed for the report for another week. His observations:

- The process has been successful given the circumstances. We have now funded the more obvious projects for restoration and are moving toward a more difficult phase of sorting out projects to fund. We have had two good rounds of solicitations and the contract files are in good shape.
- The contract files need to have better documentation and a better process. He concurs that we need to have quick review of the monitoring plans to allow the projects to move forward, and monitoring needs should be more explicit in